

HOW THE METCA MONITOR BEGAN

While printing the August 1971 issue of Trade Token Topics, I received a letter from Bill Clapper, METCA 25, relative to some tokens he had obtained through the mail which he believed to be suspect items.

I printed a flier similar to the one on the inside of this 'Monitor Sheet' and mailed it along with TTT to the members.

The rest of the story is history and can be read as you go through the pages of this year book..

Ray Nadreau

1972

SPECIAL BULLETIN

July 24, 1971

Dear Ray:

Thought I had better get a letter to you Air Mail so that this information could hit the next issue.

A St. Paul dealer mailed me the tokens (plus about 15 other denominations of the lot) represented by impressions.

These are all reproductions and I'm afraid we are in for more of the same. The big shame is that our new collectors get stuck in the neck with them because they would not recognize them as reproductions — — and darn poor ones at that.

These are all brass and very poorly struck. In addition it looks as though they have been tumbled to give them a worn and used look.

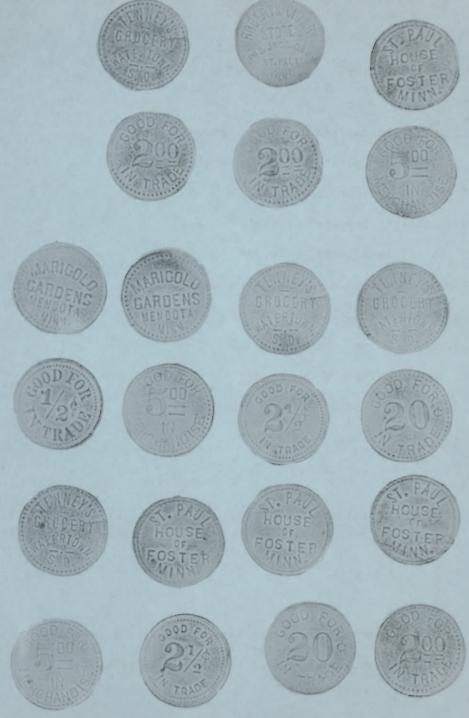
They are <u>all</u> the same size which is most unusual for that many different stores. And, the fact that some of the denominations just would not be used by some of these stores.

The Watertown, S.D. set had eight different denominations???? Just not likely at all.

Anyway, with these as examples everyone will be a little on the lookout for. Better forwarned than sorry.

Regards,

I just got this batch of rubbings and a note from a METCA member who is a well-informed and respected tokenite. It seems to me that we should have a "suspect list" as well as a "maverick list" published from here on out. I suggest we form a monitoring committee and publish a suspect list of bad tokens for present and future members.



SEE NEXT PAGE

List of restrikes Dick Grinolds #218

- 1. Marigold Gardens Mendots Minnesota
- 2. House of Foster St. Paul Minnesota
- 3. Roberts Cigar Store St. Paul Minnesota
- 4. Tenney's Grocery Watertown S.D.
- 5. Weinholzer Tavern Forada Minn.
- 6. Memorial Beach White Bear Minn.
- 7. Adrian Dept. Store Adrian Minn.
- 8. Sandwich Bar Durand Wisc.
- 9. Dot & Bills Bruce Wisc.
- 10. Hammond Hotel Hammond Wisc.
- 11. C. M. Yineman Wabek N.D.
- 12. Jim's Cigar Stand (maverick)

I saw denominations of $\frac{1}{2}$, 1,2 $\frac{1}{2}$,5,10,20,25,50,\$1,42,\$5, but not all for each business, from 6 to 8 different for each business

Above is listed tokens, the rubbings of which are on the previous page. This list was submitted by Dick Grinolds, METCA 218, after he had seen them at a coin show.

METCA Monitor Issue 1

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> Charles Littlefield Chairman, Monitoring Committee 3547 Utah St. St. Louis, Missouri 63118

IDENTIFIED RESTRIKES:

Recently I found a token at a coip show. It wasn't cheap but it was a saloon token reading 'Harry Jones Saloon, Penn Ave. R5 Scranton, Pa.' It was rusty looking and pretty badly scratched up like it might have been rubbed on gravel or the like. I wrote to a friend about my find, and back came a whole set from that area of Pennsylvania, all brand new fakes including the one I had been taken on. However he explained that the "R5" was not Rt 5 but was "RS' for RESTRIKE.

Charles Robinson, METCA #82



Publisher's Note: In my opinion it is commendable that whoever made the above tokens had them identified RS' for restrike.

FANTASY:

Collectors of I.T. tokens seem to be the target of makers of fantasies. The most recent discovery of a fantasy or modern set of tokens was made by Del Ford, METCA #194, at a recent flea market. It is not known if these have been advertised and in all probability are not claimed as old by a dealer handling them.

At the particular market that Mr. Ford attended, several dealers were selling them at various prices from \$3.00 per set up to as much as \$20.00 per set. One dealer said he might be able to furnish as many as 40 sets.

These are round, brass, and have the usual appearance of modern tokens with the attempt of making them appear old and worn. The obverse wording is 'ADA/MERCANTILE/CO./ADA, I.T.' Reverse is 'GOOD FOR/(50,25,10,5 or 1¢) IN TRADE.' No research has been made to see if Ada Mercantile Co. could actually have existed prior to statehood but it seems very unlikely that these particular tokens are restrikes. They have a modern look that can't be covered up with the attempted efforts to make them appear old. That is why these tokens are labeled 'fantasy' rather than 'reproduction.'

In my opinion, the only reason for a collector to have reproductions or fantasies in a collection is to help him identify them from genuine tokens. This could save much disappointment and discouragement in collecting tokens.

Jane Keel, METCA #80.



SUSPECT:

Obverse: LITTLE CASINO/SALOON/HOT SPRINGS

- Round, Brass.

Reverse: GOOD FOR/IN TRADE/5¢/ARK.

Coin dealer in the state of Washington had these a few years back. He offered them in lots of 20 for \$2.50 each. Now they are all over the Midwest going for low prices in mail auctions. This token even looks bad.

Charles Littlefield, METCA #7

THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF A GROUP OF 100 OBVERSE DIES FROM 15 DIFFERENT STATES WHICH WERE IN A P.A.C.A MAIL BID SALE AUG. 25, 1971

Cave Creek, Ariz. Randy's Drive Inn Tempe, Ariz. Vienna Bakery Hot Springs, Ark. Harry's Cue Club 242 Ovachita Alamosa, Colo. A&W Cigar Store Eagle Colorado, Sharp's Grand Junction, Colo. Wieker Cigar Store Montrose, Colo. Perotti Pool Hall Norwood, Colorado, Pastime Club Boise, Idaho. Sky-Lite 811 Main Payette, Idaho Town Tavern Charleston III. Smoke House Chester 111. BPOE 1629 Chester III. K of C 3790 Christopher, 111 FOE Aerie 2419 Danville, Ill. Harold's Cigar Store East St. Louis, Ill. Gus's Nut House (25c size) Same but 25c+ size Fairfield, Ill. Hidway Pool Hall Grand Tower, Ill. J.H. Birkbigler Jerseyville, III. Jersey Recreation Johnson City, Ill. J.J. Ranch Rt 37 Lebanon, Ill. Club Royale New Carlisle, Ind. Phil's Tavern Terre Haute, Ind. Combination Cigar Burlington, Iowa Byrnsies Cigar Store 323 Jefferson St. Halbur, Iowa Potthoff's Place Lohrville, lowa Frank's Tavern Nora Springs, la. Friendly Inn Nora Springs, Iowa Clifford's Pool Hall Rockwell City, Iowa Thompson Recreation Solon, lowa Keesler's Tavern Titonka, lowa Lynn's Pool & Beer Corning, Iowa Mack's Milliards Cimarron, Kansas Harold & Thelma's Recreation

Ste Genevieve, Mo. YFW Post 2210 Steele, Mo. Lonnie Pruitt Vandalia, Ho. Livingsyon Cafe 107 West Washington Anaconda, Hont. The Condor Bar 10 Billings, Hont. Western Bar 2212 Minn. Ave (5c size) Same but 25¢ size. Libby, Hontana Helen Halsey's Tap Room Missoula, Montana Missoula Lodge 556 Loyal Order of Moose. Doniphan, Nebr. F.D. Shields Doniphan, Nebraska Doniphan Pool Hall Hastings, Nebr Royal Billiards McCook, Nebr. Brown & Son Trenton, Nebr. H.P. Reutzel (25¢ size) Same but 50c size Beach, No. Dak. Leo's Recreation Dawson, N.Dak. Kennet's Bar Donnybrook, N.Dak. Ted's Bar (5¢ size) Same but 25c size Donnybrook, N. Dak. P.S. McKenna Finley, No. Dak. Mile's Place (25¢ size) Same but 5c size Lankin, N. Dak. Sherek's Bar Continental, Ohio Gunny's Pool Room aton, Ohio Recreation Parlor Germantown, Ohio Germantown Recreation Nevarre, Ohio Spring House Dan Crecco Warren, Ohio Smoke House Hanever, Penn. Republican Club Pittston, Pa. Defalco's Smoke Shop Fort Worth Texas Old Dick's Place Stop Six Forth Worth Texas Urban No. 2 Recreation 410 E 3rd Street Harlingen, Texas BPOE 1889 Pinewille, W.Va. American Legion Varney Cline Post No. 133 Burlington, Wisc. Bill Arby's Rustic Inn (5c size)

DIE LISTING CONTINUED

Same but 50¢ size Boscobel, Wisc. Bog's Bar Rio, Wisconsin Carl Peterson Prarie Du Chien, Wisc. Duke Ziel's Old Faithful Inn. Spooner, Wisc. Mike's Bar Pavillion, Wyo. Barb's Conoco

Colwich, Kansas Anthony Mannebach, Tony's Recreation (25¢ size) Same but 50¢ size Downs, Ks. Rainbow Recreation Ellinwood, Kansas Harmons Smoke House Hugoton, Kansas Stag Room Independence, Kans. The Whirl Nortonville, Kansas Weishaar Rec. & Cafe Oskaloosa, Kans. Pat's Billiards Randall, Kans. Yarber Recreation Parlor Spearville, Kansas L&B Recreation Udall Kansas Ralph's Recreation. Barneysville, Minn. The Shamrock Buhl, Minn. Ambrozich's Bar Eagle Bend, Minn. Wally's Recreation Granite Falls, Minn. Frank's Place Houston, Minn. Flattum Grocery Yucatan Staples, Minn VFW Club No. 1910 Cairo, Mo. Ted's Recreation Crystal City, Mo. D.L. Fortney Malden, Mo. American Legion 293 Poplar Bluff, Mo. King of Clubs Rolla, Mo. Continental Billiards 813 Pine Sedalia, Mo. RRR 209 W. Main Springfield, Mo. Down Beat Club 907 Poplar St.

St. Louis 10, Mo. South Side Home Improvement 1435 S. Vandeventer Ave. Olive 5-1785

METCA Monitor | ISSUE 4

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> Charles Littlefield Chairman, Monitoring Committee 3547 Utah St. St. Louis, Missouri 63118

FAKE, DIE TRIAL, FANTASY & RESTRIKES

Much has been said in the past few months, pro and con, of the batch of tokens that recently came on the market, and which were made and sold by the Anillo Co. of Orange, California. What are they to be called? This is anyone's prerogative in determining what they are. The following is a little background data to let you know what has been going on:

- 1. The dies originally belonged to the now defunct L. A. Rubber Stamp Co. or L.A.R.S.
- 2. Anillo Co. purchased these dies at an auction of the LARS Co.
- 3. Possibly persuaded by a few well-known collectors, Anillo was enticed into stamping out approximately 32 sets, of 3500 tokens to
- 4. Each token is aluminum, various sizes, all uniface (one-sided) and mostly all from California, some from Arizona, Texas, New Mexico. Nevada and Washington.
- 5. They originally sold at \$250.00 a set, the price has recently been lowered to \$150.00 and possibly less. Some sets were even donated for cataloging purposes.

Some collectors are considering these tokens to be die-trial pieces as Anillo tried the dies they had purchased in the auction sale. Other collectors are considering them to be fakes as they were made up and appear to be specious, deceptive and fraudulent. Some are classifying as fantasy tokens because some of the tokens were never placed into use, either because of mistakes on the dies or the order for the tokens fell through. Yes, they can be called restrikes, one-sided only, in a different metal, in some cases than what were originally struck by LARS. This batch of tokens has created many hard feelings among the collectors and dealers, mainly because they have been passed off as genuine. Many auction sales have included them in their listings, some with the die-trial notations, others are being sold with the explanation they were found in the old LARS Co. warehouse, and others are being sold outright across the counter as genuine. Any comments or questions are invited on any of these uniface die-trial tokens, which I prefer to call them as this is what I was billed for, as a full listing has been made and documented.

Chriss Christiansen, METCA #61, TAMS #1718

PERSONAL TOKEN:

I would like to document a token which might cause confusion to a new collector in the future.

OBV: C.L. Dunklee/Riverbend Saloon/Lotus, Cal.

REV: Good for/1/Drink

Octagonal - Brass

I understand that Mr. Dunklee issued this token with no thought of fooling anyone or of making a profit. In fact this token is free for the asking, although I don't know his address. The West Coast collectors, I understand, are aware of this token. Mr. Dunklee is a member of the California-Nevada Token Society.

Charles Littlefield, Chairman

TEXAS FANTASIES:

A Mr. J. R. Luker of 3603 Breacrest St., Houston, Texas 77016 sells the following tokens:



This set has been sold for \$17.50. Some have been stained to look old. Mr. Luker has a fine story to go with the tokens he sells which would lead one to believe that they were made during the 1920's or 1930's. However I have in my possession a copy of a note from Cajun Coins, Box 672, Mandeville, Louisiana 70448, a company that makes tokens, stating that they made these particular tokens of Mr. Luker. I suggest that we write these tokens off as fantasies and am asking members to send to the METCA Monitor Committee any letters from Mr. Luker (plus envelope they came in) regarding these tokens.

Ray Nadreau, Publisher

THE DUPONT FANTASY:

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ADVERTISING GIMMICK:

Ray Nadre at Political

The following rubbing is of a recently made towar received from the most of Lendville, Colorade, which is used as an advertision attack your mable) for his har, the R. A. W. March Monitor Coordinate received a rubbing of this taken from an avid Colorada mallestor and he informed us that most colorado collectors know of this recent strike.

Chriss Christiansen, METCA #61 - TAMS #1718



BRASS



INFORMATION WANTED ON THESE TOKENS:

Little Bar 10¢ Houston, Texas

Little Bar 5¢ Houston, Texas

Chriss Christiansen, METCA #61 - TAMS #1718

BEWARE OF RED LIGHT TOKENS

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DUNKLIN BROS., SPIRO, OKLAHOMA TRADE TOKEN: GENUINE PIECE

The following information about the Dunklin Bros., Spiro, Oklahoma token was given to Mrs. N. J. Keel, METCA #80, by Mrs. C. B. Allen, 200 East Burney, Madill, Oklahoma, the Maverick Editor for TAMS:

'Reference: 1912-13 YOUNG & CO., Directory of Oklahoma Geo. H. Dunklin, General Merchandise, Spiro, Okla.

It is also interesting to note that Geo. H. Dunklin was president of the First National Bank, who lists a capital of \$25,000, which is a large amount for this small town of 965 population.

Reference: 1928 BRADSTREETS BUSINESS DIRECTORY OF OKLA.
Dunklin Bros., General Store, Spiro, Okla.

This reference does not list banks. The population in 1928 is given as 1,173.

The late C. R. Ross of Okmulgee saw this batch of tokens long before a collector got a single piece. He said there was ½ nail keg and only the four denominations that we know.

He gave me the above information at a Ft. Smith, Ark. Coin Show in 1963 and on my way home I stopped in Spiro to inquire about this place of business and if anyone had or knew of the tokens. I found no tokens but learned that Dunklin Bros. had had vast farming interests in the area in the 1920's and 30's and operated this big General Merchandise Store.

My records show that Don Bailey of Fort Smith acquired these tokens and distributed them to interested collectors at \$5.00 a set of four tokens."

BENGAL INDIAN TERRITORY TOKEN:

(Ad shown in METCA Monitor Issue 3)

Chriss Christiansen, METCA #61 and TAMS #1718, has been in correspondence with Coin World and with Mr. J. D. Williams of Shawnee, Oklahoma (who sells the tokens in question) regarding these tokens. Chriss has received the following information and has forwarded it to me for publication:

On November 20, 1971, Coin World informed Chriss that they had obtained a Bengal Indian Territory token from Mr. Williams to examine.

On November 30,1971, Coin World informed both Chriss and Mr. J. D. Williams that in their opinion the token was of recent issue and was not struck in the 1900 era. Coin World stated that their opinion was based on numismatic knowledge and experience and was not entirely conclusive. Coin World will advise Chriss of further developments.

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METCA Monitor

Issue 4

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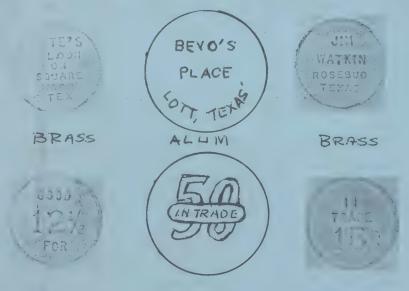
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METCA Monitor Issue 5

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> Charles Littlefield Chairman, Monitoring Committee 3547 Utah St. St. Louis, Missouri 63118

By simply spending one hour away from your tokens (which is long enough to write a letter to your Congressman) you can help obtain Government protection for your netby

WILL YOU DO IT ??

ON PAGES 6. T. AND S OF THIS MONITOR IS A COPY OF A BILL H. S. TORGO. WHICH IS IN CONGRESS RIGHT NOW IF PASSED THIS RILL WILL PROVIDE LEGAL PROTECTION AGAINST PRODUCTION OF PARE THERNS BUTTON. FIG. IF EACH METCA MEMBER WOULD WRITE TO HIS CONGRESSMEN ASEING THEM TO SUPPORT H R 10600, CHANCES ARE THAT IT WOULD PALL

Chriss Christiansen. Chuck Littlefield and I presetly ask each of you to write to your Congressmen asking them to support H R 10650.

Ray Nadreau

DON'T BE A TOKEN COP-OUT WRITE TO YOUR CONGRESS MEN NOW. WE NEED 100% PARTICIPATION TO MAKE THIS WORK

H. R. 10600

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 13, 1971

Mr. Halpern (for himself, Mr. Moss, Mr. Morse, Mrs. Hiers of Massachusetts, Mr. Mayne, Mr. Forsythe, Mr. Horton, and Mrs. Grasso) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce

A BILL

- To protect hobbyists against the reproduction or manufacture of imitation hobby items and to provide additional protections for American hobbyists.
- Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 That this Act may be cited as the "Hobby Protection Act".
- SEC. 2. The manufacture in the United States for in-
- 5 troduction into commerce of any hobby item (1) which is
- 6 a reproduction of any political button, poster, literature, or
- 7 sticker, or of any advertisement used in any political cause,
- 8 and (2) which is not plainly marked with the calendar
- 9 year in which such reproduction was manufactured, is un-

- I lawful, and shall be an unfair or deceptive act or practice
- 2 in commerce under the Federal Trade Commission Act.
- SEC. 3. The manufacture in the United States for intro-
- 1 duction into commerce of any hobby item described in section
- 5 5(1)(B) or 5(1)(D) which is a reproduction of such an
- 6 item, and which is not plainly and permanently marked
- 7 "reproduction" with the date of manufacture, is unlawful.
- 8 and shall be an unfair or deceptive act or practice in com-
- merce under the Federal Trade Commission Act.
- SEC. 4. (a) On request of any citizen of the United
- 11 States who receives through the mails, for approval, un-
- 12 solicited hobby items from any person, the United States
- 13 Postal Service shall not deliver any mail from such person
- 14 to the citizen making such request.
- 15 (b) For purposes of this section, an item is received
- In for approval if any nevertal secongraphics and them directly
- 17 the recipient to pay for the item, or, if he does not wish to-
 - 18 keep it, to return it to the sender.
 - 19 (c) The United States Postal Service shall prescribe
 - 20 such regulations is pay be necessary or appropriate to early
 - 21 out this section.
- SEC. 5. For purposes of this Act—
- (1) the term "hobby item" means—
- (A) any political button, poster, literature, or

1	sticker, or any advertisement used in any political
-)	cause;
:}	(B) any coin or related item;
4	(C) any stamp, first-day cover, block-of-four,
5	or other stamp-related item; and
6	(D) any other item of a type or class the col-
7	lection or arrangement of which constitutes a recog-
8	nized hobby;
9	(2) the term "reproduction" means a reproduction,
10	imitation, or copy; and
11	(3) the term "commerce" has the same meaning
12	as it has under the Federal Trade Commission Act.
13	Sec. 6. The Federal Trade Commission is authorized
14	to prevent any person from violating the provisions of sec-
15	tion 2 or 3 of this Act in the same manner, by the same
16	means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties
17	as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal
18	Trade Commission Act were incorporated into and made a
19	part of this Act. The Commission shall prescribe such regu-
20	lations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out this
21	Act (other than section 4).
22	SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect ninety days after the
23	date of its enactment.

METCA Monitor Issue 6

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> Charles Littlefield Chairman, Monitoring Committee 3547 Utah St. St. Louis, Missouri 63118

RED LIGHT TOKENS

Charles Littleffeld and Christ Christiansen have been devoted a lot of time and energy to determine the source and authenticity of almost every there of this type on the market. Duane Fernel tas devoted a great deal of time and effort in issearch for a summereally article in the California Nevada Taken Sacreta (CANT) rublication about these hase takens. I's not going to print pictures of or list the tokens for the simple reason that genuine Basdy House Takens are alrest nonexistent and the ones being currently sold on the token market are fakes and fastasies shich are blanbeing sold to non-collectors for conversation pieces or novelties. New fantasies show up mite regularly

Many fantasy red light takens have been or are being starped out at casts ranging from be each to live each and are being sold to ansone answhere that will buy them for \$2 00 and on up to \$7 00 each. The latest at going around (a copy of which was sent to me no Chaptes Littlefield) is from Louis C Sample P.O. Box 366, Canutillo, Texas 79855 which reads "Bawiy House Tuber a set of 9 for \$20 00, seven sets plus spaces for \$125 00 Bank or PMO Will not be shipped by wail None sold to minors.''

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

RED LIGHT TOKENS (Cont'd.)

I have a few comments to make on this last ad; if a product of any kind can't be handled by Uncle Sam's Postal Service, it should never be manufactured. I have always held the opinion that reluctance to use the U.S. Mail to conduct business is a sign of a deficient product or of questionable business or moral ethics.

Smut printing is big business and recognized as such. Smut can be imprinted on brass tokens as easily as it can be imprinted on paper. Businessmen print smut and sell it to anyone who may have a taste for it. There are many, many individuals who are amused by smut and there are many, many individuals who collect smut items. There is a big market for this kind of material.

For those of you who are amused by these tokens, remember there are a lot of other people who are likewise amused, so purchase all of them you want but keep in mind that a businessman had them made to sell as amusement items and by no means were these particular tokens ordered by an enterprising house madam, prior to going on the token, market.

For those of you who are tired of getting pictures of these tokens through the mail, there is a way to restrain the sender. Go to your local Post Office, tell the man at the window you are receiving what to you is obscene literature through the mail and want the sender to take your name off his mailing list. The Post Office will provide you with a form which you may fill out requesting your name be removed from that mailing list. The Post Office will then handle the matter from there.

MORE ON THE MYSTRY TOKENS

The Variet 7 197 place of Calle for aceds, ..., by Christiansen) carried on princes about the toler ace particle ... of the February issue of Trade Token Topics.

Collectors weekly pointed out that larger value tokens (\$2.50 and higher) began to show up in the 120 and 1900's where they were used by company pares to large and mining communities.

The last observation and by the writer of the arrive was that the cancellation rutours in these tokens agreer in identical locations when several are stacked solve indicates machine punching rather than cancellation by hand punching. The cutours are of style corrently used on some hus tokens rather than the Pun Century style cutouts.

More information, opinions and convents on these threes (pro and con) would be appreciated.

FAKES - RESTRIKES & DIE TRIAL TOKENS

If you see any of the above advertised for sale, please send rubbing, picture or good description plus a copy of the advertisement in order that it may be investigated and published in the 'METCA Monitor' suspect list. The collection you save may be your own!

CONTACT:

Charles Littlefield Chriss Christiansen John Calhoun Tom Hitt Harold Lesser

Charles Littlefield METCA #7 National Chairman Chriss Christiansen METCA #61 Coordinator

METCA #88 Coordinator METCA 144 Coordinator METCA 157 Coordinator

-CATALOGING-

FAKES - FANTASIES - RESTRIKES

would appreciate your sending me descriptions or rubbings of tokens of this nature for cataloging and recording.

TOM WALL
METCA Catalog Editor
P.O.Box 142
East Alton, Illinois 62024



METCA Monitor Issue 6 May 1972

Tokens listed on this sheet are those that are suspected of being fake, fantasy or restrikes by METCA. Tokens published here are listed by virtue of opinion only. Opposing opinions are welcomed and will be published if requested. Token dies listed on this sheet are those known to have been sold or have been placed on sale at one time or another. The token die list is for reference only and unless specifically stated otherwise, there is no proof that fake tokens have been made with them.

> Charles Littlefield Chairman, Monitoring Committee 3547 Utah St. St. Louis, Missouri 63118

RED LIGHT TOKENS

Charles Littlefield and Chriss Christiansen have both devoted a lot of time and energy to determine the source and authenticity of almost every token of this type on the market. Duane Feisel has devoted a great deal of time and effort in research for a comprehensive article in the California-Nevada Token Society (CANTS) publication about these same tokens. I'm not going to print pictures of, or list the tokens for the simple reason that genuine Bawdy House Tokens are almost nonexistent, and the ones being currently sold on the token market are fakes and fantasies which are also being sold to non-collectors for conversation pieces or novelties. New fantasies show up quite regularly

Many fantasy red light tokens have been or are being stamped out at costs ranging from 6¢ each to 19¢ each and are being sold to anyone, anywhere that will buy them for \$2.00 and on up to \$7.00 each. The latest ad going around (a copy of which was sent to me by Charles Littlefield) is from Louis C. Sample, P.O. Box 366, Canutillo, Texas 79835 which reads 'Bawdy House Tokens, a set of 9 for \$20.00, seven sets, plus spares for \$125.00 Bank or PMO. Will not be shipped by mail. None sold to minors."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

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MORE ON THE MYSTRY TOKENS

The March 7, 1972 issue of Collectors Weekly (sent to me by Chriss Christiansen) carried some interesting points or opinions about the tokens we pictured on the cover of the February issue of Trade Token Topics.

These tokens are of higher denominations than those usually used in the era for which they were supposed to be issued. Collectors Weekly pointed out that in the 1880's and 1890's it was more common to use 2%, 5%, 10%, 12% and 25% tokens because of a scarcity of small denomination coins in the western states. There were enough silver dollars and gold pieces for most dealings but few of the smaller coins available. With drinks at two for 25%, the 12%% token was popular even with small coins available.

Collectors Weekly pointed out that larger value tokens (\$2.50 and higher) began to show up in the 1920's and 1930's where they were used by company stores in logging and mining communities.

The last observation made by the writer of the article was that the cancellation cutouts in these tokens appear in identical locations when several are stacked which indicates machine punching rather than cancellation by hand punching. The cutouts are of styles currently used on some bus tokens rather than the 19th Century-style cutouts.

More information, opinions and comments on these tokens (pro and con) would be appreciated.

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